



IMMIGRATION MEASURES

SUPPORT ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE

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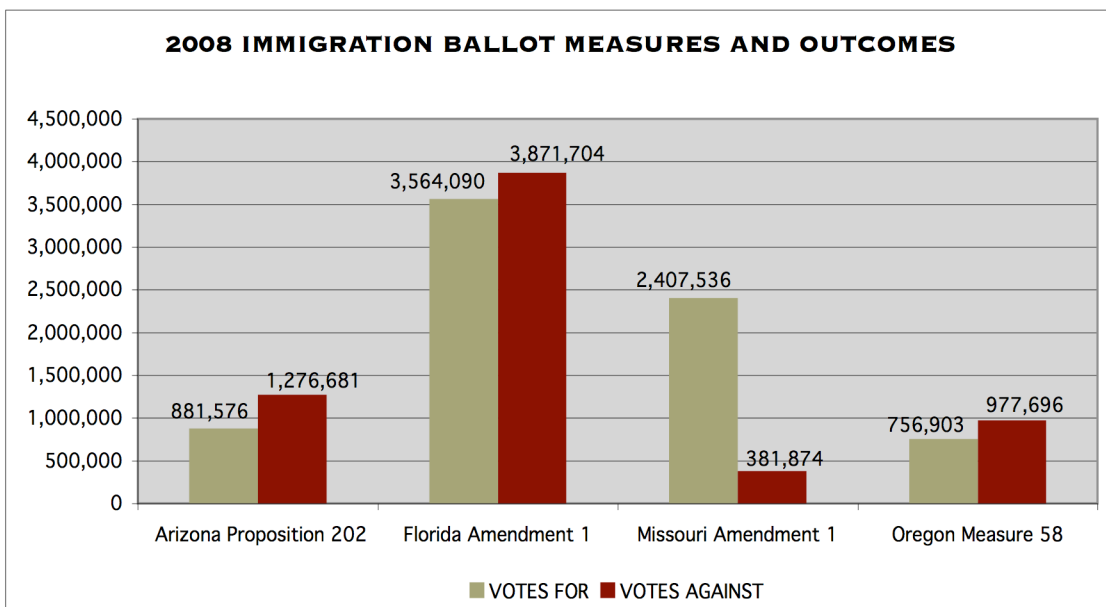
IMMIGRATION CONTINUES TO BE A HOT-BUTTON ISSUE AROUND THE COUNTRY. In 2008, for example, four states—Florida, Missouri, Oregon and Arizona—had immigration-related measures on their ballots.

Oregon's failed Measure 58 would have limited the teaching of public school students in a language other than English to up to two years, depending on the student's grade level. Arizona's Proposition 202, which also failed, would have made a series of changes to the state's illegal hiring statutes, some of which would have made the statutes more stringent and some of which would have made them more lenient.

In Missouri, Amendment 1 passed overwhelmingly, making English the official language of all government proceedings. Florida's Amendment 1, which failed in a close vote, would have repealed provisions authorizing the Legislature to regulate the ownership or transfer of real property by persons not eligible for U.S. citizenship.

In 2008, four states—Florida, Missouri, Oregon and Arizona—had immigration-related measures on their ballots

Ballot measure committees raised money around the immigration measures in Oregon and Arizona, while no committees were identified around the Florida and Missouri measures.



OREGON'S MEASURE 58

Measure 58 received only 44 percent of votes in favor. It would have limited the teaching of public school students in a language other than English to two years. Bill Sizemore, executive director of the anti-tax group Oregon Taxpayers United, and a force behind many of Oregon's ballot measures over recent years, was one of the chief petitioners of this measure.¹

Committees supporting or opposing the measure raised \$16.6 million,² of which \$15.6 million was raised by two committees opposing the measure.

COMMITTEES WITH A POSITION ON MEASURE 58, 2008

PROPOSERS	TOTAL
Oregonians for Honest Elections*	\$684,676
Taxpayer Defense Fund*	\$176,944
Freedomworks Issues PAC*	\$127,656
Parents Education Association*	\$43,168
Oregonians for Immigration Reform	\$23,693
English for the Children	\$6,287
PROPOSERS' TOTAL	\$1,062,424
OPPOSERS	
Defend Oregon*	\$15,516,065
Committee to Protect Local Control of Schools	\$66,625
OPPOSERS' TOTAL	\$15,582,690
TOTAL	\$16,645,114

* Committee had a position on multiple 2008 measures

PROPOSERS OF MEASURE 58

Of the six committees that supported Measure 58, only two had a position solely on that measure: Oregonians for Immigration Reform raised roughly \$23,700; English for the Children raised nearly \$6,300.

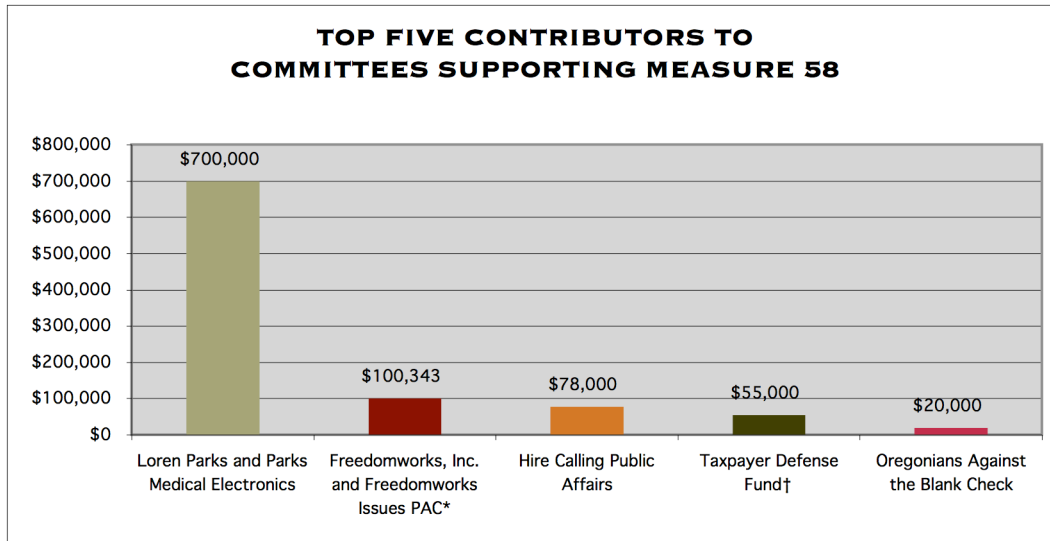
Most of the money raised by English for the Children came from a group called ProEnglish, which promotes English-only ideals, and from California software designer Ron Unz—each of whom gave \$2,500. Sixty percent of the money raised by Oregonians for Immigration Reform came in unitemized contributions, which are those that fall under the state's reporting threshold of \$100 for disclosing the names of the donor.

The other four committees in favor of Measure 58 took positions on additional ballot measures. Oregonians for Honest Elections, with positions on four other measures, raised \$684,676. Most of that money (\$500,000) came from Loren Parks, a notable conservative who is "the top donor to

¹ For information on Bill Sizemore and Oregon Taxpayers United, see "Home Page," *Oregon Taxpayers United*, available from <http://www.otu.org/>, accessed June 8, 2009.

² Frequently, committees in Oregon work to support or oppose multiple ballot measures in an election. This figure includes all contributions to committees who addressed Measure 58, whether or not they addressed other measures.

political causes in Oregon history.”³ Parks owns Parks Medical Electronics, which contributed another \$100,000 each to two other supporting committees, Taxpayer Defense Fund and Freedomworks Issues PAC, claiming the top contributor spot for both of those committees. The Taxpayer Defense Fund and the Freedomworks Issues PAC each also took a position on multiple measures.



*The \$100,343 figure includes \$7,156 given to Freedomworks Issues PAC by Freedomworks, Inc.

†The \$55,000 figure includes \$20,000 given by Oregonians Against the Blank Check to Taxpayer Defense Fund.

Freedomworks, Inc. is a Washington, D.C.-based political organization promoting lower taxes and smaller government.⁴ The Freedomworks Issues PAC is a ballot committee sponsored by the company.

Hire Calling Public Affairs is affiliated with The American Institute for Full Employment, which works with states and other levels of government, and with private organizations, to develop welfare, employment and retirement programs.⁵

Oregonians Against the Blank Check is a 2007 ballot committee funded primarily by the RJ Reynolds cigarette company and formed to oppose Measure 50, a cigarette tax increase. The committee gave \$20,000 to the Taxpayer Defense Fund.

³ Dave Hogan, “Loren Parks Funds More Initiatives,” *The Oregonian*, Sept. 7, 2007, available from http://blog.oregonlive.com/politics/2007/09/loren_parks_funds_more_initiat.html, accessed June 8, 2009.

⁴ “Our Mission,” *Freedomworks*, available from <http://www.freedomworks.org/about/our-mission>, accessed June 29, 2009.

⁵ “About Us,” *The American Institute for Full Employment*, available from <http://www.fullemployment.org/about.php>, accessed June 29, 2009.

OPPONENTS OF MEASURE 58

Defend Oregon, which took a position on 10 other measures on Oregon's 2008 ballot, raised \$15.5 million during the 2008 elections. The committee cites a wide variety of member groups, including unions, non-profits, churches, and advocacy groups.⁶ It raised 89 percent of its money from labor unions, and another 8 percent from three other ballot measure campaigns: Don't Silence Our Voice, Better Way to Fight Crime, and Voting Matters Oregon. The leading contributors to Defend Oregon were: Oregon Education Association with \$5.3 million, National Education Association with \$3 million, and Service Employees International Union's local unit 503 with \$1.1 million.

Don't Silence Our Voice Committee, formed to oppose Measure 64,⁷ gave \$922,457 to Defend Oregon. In addition, The Better Way to Fight Crime committee, which formed to support Measure 57,⁸ gave \$238,066.

TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO DEFEND OREGON, 2008

CONTRIBUTOR	TOTAL
National Education Association*†	\$8,430,593
Services Employees International Union†	\$2,456,654
Don't Silence Our Voice Committee	\$922,457
American Federation of Teachers*†	\$815,000
Oregon School Employees Association	\$600,296
AFSCME†	\$556,500
AFL-CIO†	\$316,148
The Better Way to Fight Crime Committee	\$238,066
Laborers' International Union†	\$202,500
TOTAL \$14,538,214	

*The Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers and the Florida Education Association belong to both the NEA and AFT. Therefore, their \$10,000 contribution and \$5,000 contribution, respectively, were split between the two national organizations in the above table, half to NEA and half to AFT.

† Includes contributions from state and local affiliates.

The Committee to Protect Local Control of Schools focused exclusively on opposing this measure. They raised \$66,625 – \$40,000 of which came from the Oregon Education Association.

Several single-issue groups gave nearly \$22,811 to the Committee to Protect Local Control of Schools. Our Oregon, which gave \$7,800, is a non-profit organization addressing economic and taxation policy in the legislature and in ballot measures.⁹ Healthy Democracy Oregon, which gave \$5,000, formed to support a ballot initiative process change called the "citizens' initiative review," in which a panel of Oregon citizens gather to review a ballot measure and provide a summary of the supporting and opposing arguments for the measure.¹⁰ The Western States Center, which also

⁶ "Who We Are," *Defend Oregon*, available from <http://www.defendoregon.org/whoweare.html>, accessed June 8, 2009.

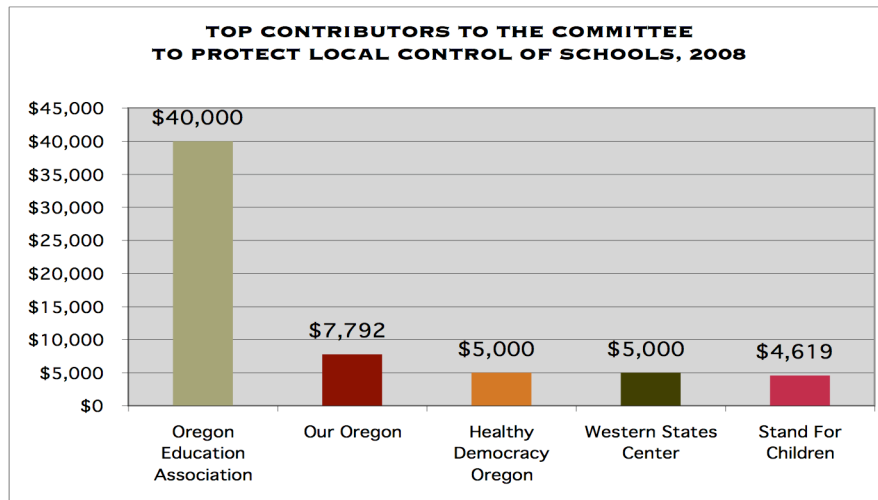
⁷ "Who We Are," *Don't Silence Our Voice No on Measure 64*, available from <http://www.dontsilenceourvoice.com/whoweare.html>, accessed June 29, 2009.

⁸ "Get the Facts," *The Better Way to Fight Crime Yes on 57*, available from <http://www.betterwaytofightcrime.com/thefacts.html>, accessed June 29, 2009.

⁹ Homepage, *Our Oregon*, available from <http://www.ouroregon.org/>, accessed June 11, 2009.

¹⁰ "About Us," *Healthy Democracy Oregon*, available from http://www.healthymocracyoregon.org/about_us, accessed June 11, 2009.

gave \$5,000, advocates for social and environmental issues.¹¹ Stand For Children, which gave \$4,619, is an advocacy group for children's programs and education funding.¹²



ARIZONA'S PROPOSITION 202

A business-backed measure on Arizona's ballot would have made several changes to the state's law that provides penalties to employers for hiring unauthorized immigrants. Proposition 202, which the voters rejected, would have expanded the crime of identity theft to employers who knowingly accept false identification from workers, and imposed penalties for cash-only hiring of unauthorized immigrants. The measure also would have required complaints of illegal hiring to be written and signed (the current law allows anonymous complaints), and would have permitted businesses to use I-9 forms to verify a potential worker's eligibility to work rather than requiring an E-Verify check. In addition, Proposition 202 would have made it more difficult to revoke a business license for illegal hiring practices.¹³

Proposition 202 was soundly defeated by 59 percent of the votes, despite the fact that significantly more money was raised to support the measure. Stop Illegal Hiring Prop 202 raised \$1,001,196 – seven times more than the \$140,350 raised by No On Prop 202.

¹¹ Home page, *Western States Center*, available from <http://www.westernstatescenter.org/>, accessed June 11, 2009.

¹² "About Stand For Children," *Stand for Children*, available from <http://www.stand.org/Page.aspx?pid=218>, accessed June 11, 2009.

¹³ Jacques Bileaud, "Business Interests Seek Employer Sanction Changes in Arizona," *Deseret News*, Oct. 13, 2008, available from <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/1,5143,705255031,00.html>, accessed June 5, 2009; Mary Jo Pitzl, "Hiring-Law Opponents Take Battle to the Polls With Proposition 202," *Arizona Daily Republic*, Oct. 19, 2008, available from <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/2008/10/19/20081019sanctions1019main.html>, accessed June 5, 2009.

**COMMITTEES WITH A
POSITION ON PROPOSITION 202, 2008**

COMMITTEE	POSITION	TOTAL
Stop Illegal Hiring Prop 202	For	\$1,001,196
No On Prop 202	Against	\$140,350
TOTAL		\$1,141,546

PROPONENTS OF PROP 202

Most of the difference in fund raising around the measure was the \$802,634 contributed to the Stop Illegal Hiring Prop 202 committee by Wake Up Arizona!, an organization of business leaders led by Marion “Mac” Magruder, an owner of several McDonald’s franchises.¹⁴ The Arizona McDonald’s Operators Association, McDonald’s USA and Magruder himself each contributed \$9,500 in favor of Prop 202.

A look at the top contributors to Stop Illegal Hiring Prop 202 demonstrates the abundant money given by various business interests to support the measure. In all, donors from the General Business sector contributed \$879,634 – 88 percent of the money raised in support of Prop 202. Donors from the Agriculture sector chipped in an additional \$54,525. Including Magruder, 48 individuals contributed a total of \$22,492 in support of Prop 202. By comparison, 345 individuals contributed a total of \$28,260 to oppose the measure.

**TOP FIVE CONTRIBUTORS
IN FAVOR OF PROP 202, 2008**

CONTRIBUTOR	BUSINESS OF CONTRIBUTOR	TOTAL
Wake Up Arizona!	Pro-Business Organizations	\$802,634
Western Growers Association	Farm Organizations or Cooperatives	\$35,000
AdCorp Inc.	Restaurants & Drinking Establishments	\$10,000
Arizona Cattlemen’s Association	Livestock	\$10,000
Pepsi-Cola of Tucson	Non-Alcoholic Beverages	\$10,000
TOTAL		\$867,634

OPPONENTS OF PROP 202

No On Prop 202, the lone committee that raised funds to oppose the measure, garnered \$140,350. Team America, a PAC operated by Former U.S. Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-CO), and the Federation for American Immigration Reform, a group supporting reduced immigration, each gave \$40,000 to become the highest contributors. U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith’s (R-TX) campaign committee, Texans For Lamar Smith, also contributed \$5,600. Additionally, No On Prop 202 had more than \$17,000 in unitemized contributions.

—END—

¹⁴ Dale Quinn, “Opponents of Employer Sanctions Law Go from Courtroom to Initiative,” *Arizona Daily Star*, Oct. 21, 2008, available from <http://www.azstarnet.com/business/263353>, accessed June 5, 2009. As a clarification, Wake Up Arizona! has a website at <http://www.wakeuparizona.org>. Another organization, which rhetorically opposed Prop 202, but was called Wake Up Arizona can be found at <http://www.wakeuparizona.net/>. Despite their similar names, the organizations are not affiliated.